

In the Claims

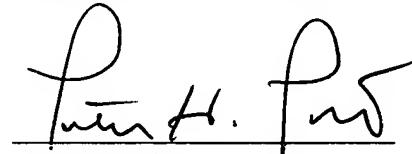
Please cancel claims 16-43 without prejudice.

Remarks

This preliminary amendment is being filed in the present application which is a continuation of allowed application Serial Number 09/323,609 filed on June 1, 1999, which is in turn a division of application Serial Number 08/885,310 filed on June 30, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,023,753. Claims 16-43 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-15 are presently pending.

The specification has been amended to update the current status of the related case. A supplementary preliminary amendment will be filed shortly.

Respectfully submitted,



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the Specification**

On page 1, the following text has been added:

--This is a continuation of allowed application Serial Number 09/323,609 filed on June 1, 1999, which is in turn a division of application Serial Number 08/885,310 filed on June 30, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,023,753.--

**In the Claims**

Claims 16-43 have been cancelled.